

### **Council Response to Inspectors Action Point AP30 – regarding Green Wedge and Rural Gap Designations around Great Burdon**

Further to the Inspectors request the Council has reviewed the proposed rural gap and green wedge designations at Great Burdon.

Firstly this specifically relates to the area between the south eastern edge of the village of Great Burdon and proposed site allocation 020 – Great Burdon. The key purpose for the designations in this specific location, informed by the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment (SD35), Landscape Sensitivity of Housing sites (SD31) and the Green Infrastructure Strategy (SD38) is to ensure the openness, landscape character, setting and distinctive identity of Great Burdon is protected and enhanced.

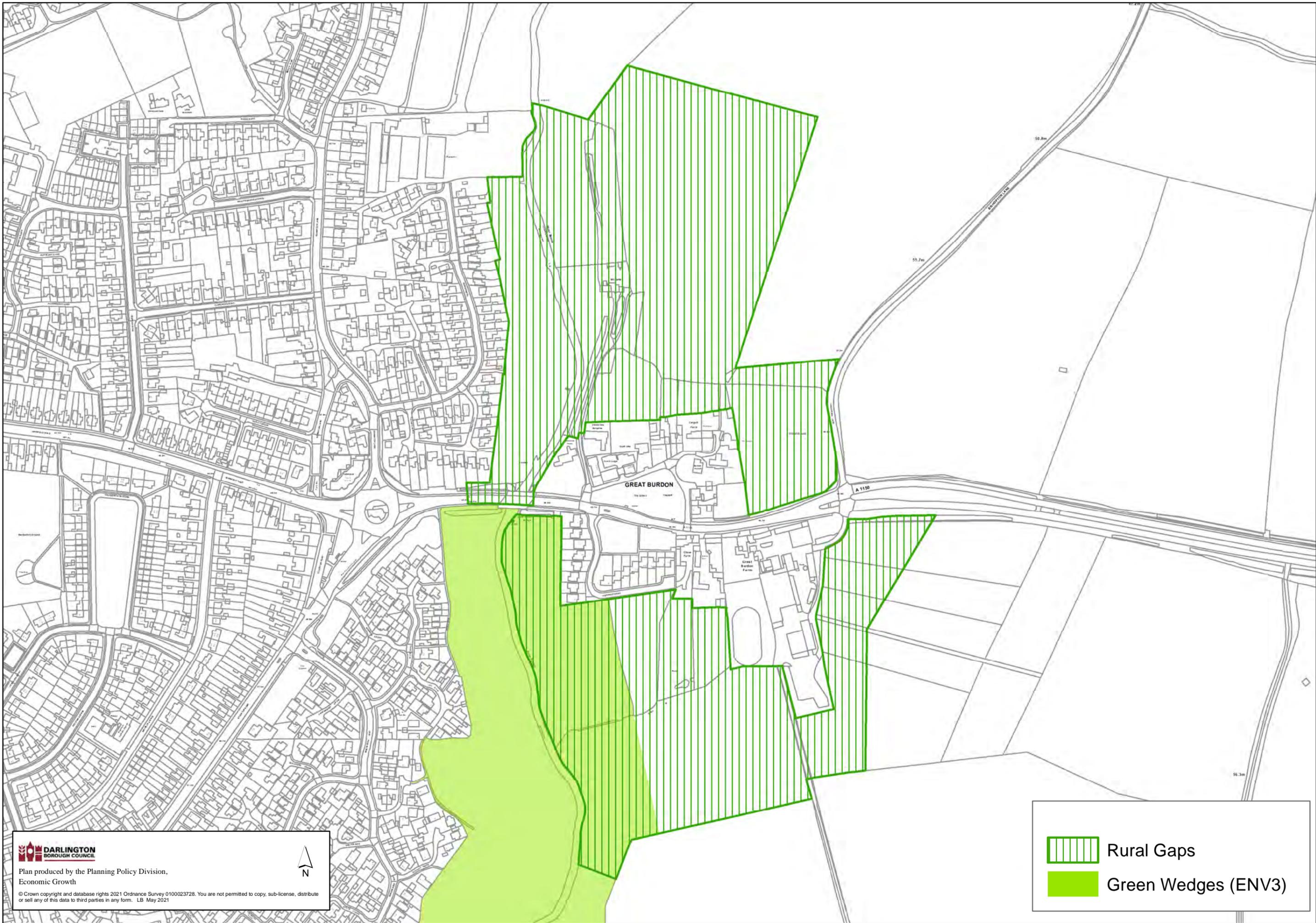
On further review these criteria principally relate to the function and purpose of rural gaps so as illustrated on the accompanying plan a modification is proposed to remove the green wedge designation from this area to cover the area along the river Skerne corridor which principally fulfils the green infrastructure function of green wedge.

A modification is also now proposed to reduce the area covered by the rural gap on the south eastern edge of Great Burdon as the area remaining is considered to still provide sufficient buffer and protection of the area that contributes to the functions of a rural gap between the proposed allocation site 020 and Great Burdon village.

A further modification is proposed to the green wedge which has been extended to include the area on the south eastern side of the River Skerne which has green infrastructure functions in this location.

Subject to these modifications the Council do consider the Great Burdon rural gap provides the setting for a distinctive settlement and provides valued openness from the urban area as well as contributing to the distinctive landscape character, setting and identity of the village. It is therefore justified.

The Haughton/Red Hall green wedge including the area around Great Burdon is justified as it contributes to the openness, landscape character and identity of the local area as well as performing a range of green infrastructure functions including biodiversity, ecological and habitat value, accessibility and connectivity, recreational value, amenity and flood storage.



Rural Gaps



Green Wedges (ENV3)